



STAFF: Mike Mikesh and Ed Edwards.

TIFFANY STAR is a monthly amateur periodical published in support of the History of the Imperium Working Group (HIWG). The activities of HIWG are devoted to the development of the setting for Game Designers' Workshop's (GDW) science fiction role playing game of the far future, TRAVELLER. TRAVELLER is the registered trademark of GDW and is used with permission only. Portions of this periodical are derived from other TRAVELLER materials published by GDW or Digest Group Publications and are the copyright of the

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Articles in specific format and illustrations are welcome. Send mail to Mike Mikesh, TIFFANY STAR, 3124 75th Ave #3, Landover MD 20785.

THUNDER FROM ABOVE

by Joe D. Fugate, Sr.

9/20/89

Because we (DGP and GDW) are starting the clock running once again on January 1, 1990 at 001-1120, all prior HIWG documentation must end at 365-1119. From 001-1120, WE are going to direct the flow of the rebellion with our adventures, etc. We actively solicit HIWG input into our determination process, but any HING document to be published that discusses any rebellion history after 365-1119 is unofficial (however, see below).

ED and MIKE: I suggest that you refer all post 1119 HIWG documents to me (Joe Fugate at DGP) and I will take up the task of discussing them with Marc Miller. That having been done, if Marc and I agree that the material fits in with the DGP/GDW direction of the Rebellion, then we will authorize you to add "Officially Approved Rebellion History" to the document.

--Joe, DGP

WHAT IN THE STARS

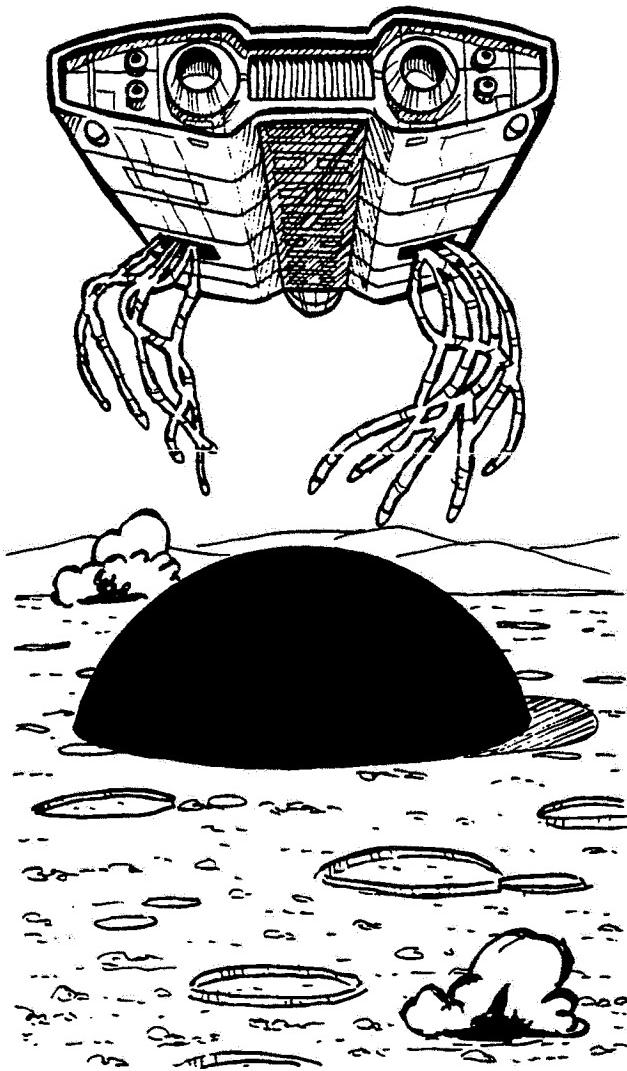
by Mike Mikesh

Tiffany Star is one sheet, but is now a monthly and will include Traveller news and information. This is an efficiency move.

Joe Fugate at Digest Group Publications is giving HIWG a LOT of attention. (Some HIWGers were worried we are being ignored. Be assured this is not so.) However, Joe expressed some annoyance at our ability to manage the flow of information up to him.

This stems largely from the influx of new members. The organization was set up for about 20. It now has approximately 6 times that. Changes to handle the growth were sadly overdue. I've asked Joe to remove our ad in Digest, at least until we have better control over things.

The key change is the total emphasis on HIWG Pubs to get fan essays and ideas to the designers. This is Joe's reference library. If Joe (or any writer) needs supporting material for a publication, he can go to Ed's listing of HIWG Pubs, scan for the things he might need, and pull them. (Writers that don't have a set of HIWG



Pubs can ask Ed for the selected material.)

To make this work, though, the HIWG Pubs listing will also include a synopsis of each pub. Title, subject, and length isn't enough for Joe to know if it has the material he needs. So, when you submit a work, include a synopsis giving the main points or highlights. This will make Ed's job easier. Do not send new material directly to Joe; send it to Ed for HIWG Pubs.

The most important new inclusion in TS is a monthly listing of the additions to HIWG Pubs by members. Joe specifically asked for this to keep him abreast of what's new from HIWG and to supplement the HIWG Pubs listing. Although we could have just sent him a separate sheet each month, it seemed better to reserve the back side of TS for that. This way the supplement to HIWG Pubs is available to everyone, designers, writers, and HIWG members.

The front of the sheet will include the two regular columns, "What in the Stars" (this one), and "HIWG Chairsophont Letter" (HCL). Ed's HCL will focus on HIWG news and information. "What in the Stars" will focus on Traveller news and information. Having gone monthly, and by virtue of having regular access to Joe on the GENIE network, this change to "What Stars" seems reasonable, one I'm sure members will welcome.

Tiffany Star will also include some other things on an irregular basis. "Thunder From Above" will occasionally have things directly from the powers that be. When we have sufficient white space, I'll include art. And there might even be a second sheet.

This second sheet might be used for any of several things. Ed could use it for a mass letter. As chief of an organization with 100++ members, he's swamped. So, he might elect to do this just to touch base with everyone he needs to when time demands this recourse. The optional sheet could also be used for spill-over (as in this case). Or it might be used for articles.

Articles got axed because TS had to come out faster and DGP projects don't permit me the attention anymore I'd like to give TS. Articles weren't really that important because HIWG Pubs was the main conduit of information. I instead encourage members to send their material to Geo Gelinas at Terra Traveller Times.

However, if members submit articles to me photo-ready, I can use them when an available second sheet comes up. I'm looking primarily for material that applies to the Rebellion as a whole. You may use one page or two. Maps are still welcome. Try to use all of each sheet. If you're using regular sized type, you may leave a half page white space. I can perhaps use that for illos or free ads.

You may photo-reduce your type to get more on the page, as long as its still readable. (I use 12 pitch reduced to 77% myself.) Use double columns. If you don't use all the page(s), try to leave quarter page blocks of white space, like one on page 1, one of page 2.

My aim is to get 6 issues out before the turn of the year. That means you'll be getting Tiffany Star at a faster rate. After TS#15, the pace will drop back to once a month.



HIWG CHAIRSOPHONT LETTER

by Ed Edwards



Dear Fellow TRAVELLER:

9/28/89

I thank each HIWGer for their continued patience with this lowly ChairSophont. During the last four months the number of HIWGers has more than doubled. At the same time, my available time to service HIWG has dropped to less than half. Those mathematically inclined will note that these facts make my time to communicate with each HIWGer drop to less than 1/4 of what it used to be. Bottom line: I have quit writing my trademark chatty letters in which I ramble on about fourteen different TRAVELLER subjects and even move into personal details like what I had for lunch.

I want you to know this is not because any former friend is no longer desirable, but due to the press of important HIWG matters. Well, that is an overstatement. I've been burdened with HIWGian details like the distribution of HIWG Documents (it just takes an hour or two to pull a \$33.00 order of HIWG Docs from the some 700 pages of available HIWG Documents, run to the copy shop, run home, restore the sequence of HIWG Doc originals, package up the mail, etc.). I enjoy doing this, but it doesn't get the mail written. Besides, I might like to write a HIWG Doc or two myself.

There I go again chatting away endlessly. What I wanted to say is that I can no longer communicate with individual HIWGers at the degree to which I would like. I have made several attempts to assign some of my duties to other HIWGers, with success some places and failure others.

Instead of griping, let me discuss two HIWGian developments which are good. I didn't plan them, but I wish I had.

The first nifty development in HIWG is that it is now a family of fanzines. There are series of HIWG Docs being developed which, if standing by themselves could only be called fanzines.

TRAVELLER Fanzines
The HIWG Connection

7/29/89

I was sitting about worrying because all the exclusively TRAVELLER fanzines were either gone or have included other game systems in their coverage. Then it dawns on me: there are a full half-dozen exclusively TRAVELLER fanzines - and I, the HIWG Documents Guru, am sitting on them. Yes, HIWG Docs is a family of exclusively TRAVELLER fanzines. Guide to the entries:
• Issue-Number Nbr-Pages Date/Title

TIFFANY STAR

Editor: Mike Mikesh

Subject: Flagship document of HIWG. HIWG membership includes copies of TS.

Issues available:

| | | |
|---|----|----------|
| 1 | 20 | 1/16/88 |
| 2 | 20 | 2/27/88 |
| 3 | 20 | 5/18/88 |
| 4 | 20 | 7/8/88 |
| 5 | 20 | 8/15/88 |
| 6 | 20 | 11/12/88 |
| 7 | 20 | 2/27/89 |
| 8 | 20 | 3/27/89 |
| 9 | 20 | 7/24/89 |

STarpot

Editor: Kevin Parry

Subject: ATARI ST Users: using the ATARI ST for TRAVELLER pleasure, TRAVELLER data bases, etc.

Issues available:

| | | | |
|----|---|---------|---|
| 0 | 1 | 7/2/89 | Index of STarpot Material |
| 2 | 2 | 1/30/89 | |
| 3 | 3 | 3/6/89 | |
| 4 | 2 | 5/11/89 | |
| 5 | 4 | 7/12/89 | |
| 80 | 5 | 7/12/89 | Format for Sectors, Sub-sectors, and System files |

AMIGA Project Newsletter

Editor: Gregg Giles

Subject: AMIGA Users: using the AMIGA for TRAVELLER pleasure.

Issues Available:

2 1 3/x/89

(disk also available)

T-TECH

Editor: Phil Athans

Subject: Ships, vehicles, equipment.

Issues available:

| | |
|---|--------------|
| 2 | T-TECH Index |
| 0 | T-TECH 00 |
| 1 | T-TECH 01 |
| 2 | T-TECH 02 |
| 3 | T-TECH 03 |

AAB PROCEEDINGS

Editor: Clay Bush

Subject: "for HIWG Analysts working in the Vland Domain"

Issues available:

| | | |
|---|---|---------|
| 1 | 4 | 4/30/89 |
| 2 | 6 | 5/31/89 |
| 3 | 5 | 7/15/89 |

VARGR CENTER DISPATCH

Editor: Phil Athans

Subject: Vargr Center and the invasion of Corridor

Issues available:

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | 6 | What the Vargr Center wants |
| 2 | 6 | The Invasion of Corridor (also appears in TS9) |

The second nifty HIWG development is due to the efforts of Bryan Borich. He saw and solved two problems: first, that there should be some way to get HIWG Documents onto GENie; second, that HIWG Docs is growing so fast, one can hardly afford paper copies of all of them. Using a laser printer and a program with great flexibility in the size of the print, Bryan can reduce the size of HIWG Docs. This does take a lot of work on the part of Bryan to reformat HIWG Docs. Bryan has shown a great deal of HIWGian fervor in doing this. Express your thanks to him when you get a chance. A list of the improvements follows:

Enhanced HIWG Documents

| # | pages | new | old | Author | Title |
|------|-------|-----|------|---|-------|
| 0003 | 2 | 5 | Bush | How to HIWG '89 | |
| 1104 | 1 | 3 | Bush | Corrections to REBELLION SOURCEBOOK | |
| 1301 | 13 | 28 | Bush | Concise History of the 3rd Imperium | |
| 1302 | 6 | 13 | Bush | Concise History of the Terran Period (-2499 to 0) | |

| # | new | old | Author | Title |
|--------|-----|-----|----------|--|
| 1303 | 8 | 16 | Bush | Concise History of the Vilani Period (-100,000 to -2400) |
| 1701 | 1 | 3 | Bush | First Thoughts on Ship Design in MT |
| 4103 | 1 | 2 | Fountain | Power Delineations in the Illeish Sector |
| 4201 | 4 | 14 | Videll | Initial Analysis Zarushagar Sector |
| 4203 | 2 | 5 | Videll | Corporate Zarushagar, Rev 0 |
| A001 | 1 | 4 | Kimball | War of Antarian Libration 1116-1122 |
| AS01 | 1 | 2 | Hopkins | Yerlyaruwioko Character Profile |
| L001 | 5 | 14 | Affeldt | Lucan's Lieutenants (LL) |
| 040.01 | 1 | 2 | Affeldt | Dirty Deeds of the Rebellion |

The 111 old pages cost \$11.40 at the old price of 10 cents a page. The 46 new pages cost \$5.52 at 12 cents a page, \$6.90 at 15 cents a page. Even at the higher prices, this is a 38% reduction in overall cost. Bryan did this!

Bryan has also reformatted the following documents which were never available in a long version.

| # | pages | Author | Title |
|------|-------|---------|------------------------------------|
| 3103 | 1 | Riddell | Vargr Attacks on Corridor |
| 3104 | 1 | Riddell | Duke Rehman in the Rebellion |
| 3105 | 2 | Riddell | Four Personalities of Corridor |
| 3106 | 1 | Riddell | What is Corridor Sector All About? |
| 3107 | 1 | Riddell | The Corridor Chronicles |
| 3108 | 1 | Riddell | Mid-Rift Stations |

Duke Rehman is the Sector Duke of Corridor who is displaced by invading Vargr.

The "Four Personalities" is actually five personalities (Ed didn't count very good when he made up the title to the document). These characters are minor nobles and functionaries.

"The Corridor Chronicles" are a vehicle Riddell has created to carry information about the fall of Corridor. The Chronicles are described in this document.

"What is Corridor Sector all About?" is a discussion of Riddell's current thoughts on how to further develop the sector as Corridor Sector Analyst.

"Mid-Rift Stations" speculates on the development of aids to crossing the Great Rift. The Rift separates the two parts of Corridor Sector.

New HIWG Docs for August:

| | | | |
|------|----|-----------|---|
| 0001 | 14 | Edwards | HIWG Documents List |
| 0530 | 16 | Bush | HIWG Membership Directory (HMD) of 6/3/89 listing active HIWGers #1 to #100 |
| 1902 | 7 | Law-Green | Yes, But what are Psionics Exactly? |
| 4110 | 2 | Fountain | Ileish Reader |
| 4401 | 30 | Range | Daibei Naval Intelligence Report |
| 6005 | 1 | Plevritis | Sylea Domain Dot Map |
| AS02 | 9 | Hopkins | Afawahisa Sector Stats |
| R005 | 2 | Bush | Vland's reply to "What the Vargr Center Wants" |

Recent HIWG Appointments:

(nego.) means the position is under negotiation and may be filled.

| | | |
|------|---------------|------------------------------|
| 64xx | Bill Carey | Delphi Sector Analyst |
| 74xx | Jim Ujcik | Alpha Crucis Sector Analyst |
| 73xx | (Nego.) | Ley Sector Analyst |
| 74xx | (Nego.) | Glimmerdrift Reaches Analyst |
| 96xx | Patrick Hoye | Empty Quarter Sector Analyst |
| 9Jxx | Herb Petro | Foreven Sector Analyst |
| ASxx | Allen Hopkins | Aslan Faction Analyst |
| Zxxx | Pete Perneta | Zhodani Faction Analyst |
| xxxx | Bryan Borich | HIWG Data Coordinator |

All HIWG Documents mentioned here are available for US 12 cents (until 1 Jan 90) per page or page equivalent from Ed Edwards; 1410 E. Boyd; Norman, OK 73071 or for 8 pence per page in England from: David Lai; 9 Fieldhead Close; Market Harborough; Leics. LE16 9DZ.

TIFFANY STAR back issues 1 to 9 are still available for US\$2.00 each from Ed or 1 Pound 60 pence from David Lai.

And now on to the changes in HIWG since the last issue of TS:

CHANGED TIFFANY STAR

You probably noticed the change in TS. TS will henceforth contain only HIWG coordination material, HIWG Document summaries, and HIWG Document lists. It will not contain Rebellion articles. Because TS is shorter, its cost is less per issue. The cost of TS 1-9 is US\$2.00 each, for TS 10 + is US\$1.00. There will be twice as many issues of the new/improved TS as of the old TS during the year. So the cost per year runs the same. New policy is: HIWG membership is \$10¹² per year. This includes at least 12 issues of TS (about monthly - but this may be twice a month some months, nothing some months).

To get there, it will be necessary for me to scrub the HIWG membership list. Every issue of TS due after #9 will be doubled. I really do not have time to do this prior to the circulate time of TS10. You should notice this on your mailing label of TS11.

Many forces lead to this change in TS. Rather than defend this action, I will list some of the forces:

1. need to enhance communication with the professional world of TRAVELLER
2. rising copy costs and postage costs
3. increasing interest in HIWG goals and activities
4. redefined priorities of HIWGian leaders
5. the War on Drugs, lunar cycles, and the Terra Greenhouse Effect
6. increasing HIWG membership
7. increasing HIWG participation in Rebellion developments
8. copyright and law suit laws
9. massive growing volume of Rebellion facts
10. ----other---- (please specify).

CHANGED HIWG Document price

As of 8/25/89 the price of a HIWG Document page (or page equivalent) is US12 cents. I have not had time to correspond with the UK outlet of HIWG Docs - but if the dollar cost rises, so does the Pound prices. The cost for back issues of TS remains at US\$2.00 per issue (issues 1 to 9). The Copy shop I use went up, I go up.

On 1 Jan 90 the price of a page of HIWG Docs rises to US15 cents. The postage is going up, so the cost goes up.

Sector Data Progress

Sector Data to accompany the ATLAS sectors is continually being uploaded to GENie. If you are the Sector Analyst of one of the following sectors and do not have a copy of the data, I will provide it to you upon your request. People who are not sector analysts for a particular sector need not apply. The sectors are: Antares, Core, Corridor, Dagudashaag, Daibei, Delphi, Diasporia, The Empty Quarter, Fornast, Glimmerdrift, Gushemege, Hinterworlds, Lishun, Old Expanses, Reaver's Deep, Reft, Riftspan Reaches, Trojan Reach, and Vland.

HIWG and TTT

After issue 25 of TTT, HIWG will no longer be sending all HIWGers prepaid copies of TTT. If you enjoy

receiving TTT, you will have to pay your own subscription. Details on subscribing to TTT are in each issue of TTT. TTT is a good fanzine and I encourage you to subscribe to it.

Resign Now and Avoid the Rush

There are a lot more HIWGers now than there were three or four months ago. If you have more than one HIWG analyst job, you need to resign from all but one of them. If you have been a HIWG analyst over a year and have not written a HIWG Pub yet, you need to resign. There are HIWGers waiting for a HIWG analyst job.

HOW TO HIWG update

Efforts are underway to produce a document called "How to HIWG '90" Target date for completion is early 1990. If you have any data you think should go into it, send it to Ed.

FUTURE HCL TOPICS

The following topics need to be discussed in future HCLs in TS:

1. Who owns the copyright on HIWG Docs?
2. Who in this world is controlling the course of the Rebellion?
3. Can one HIWG without GENie membership?
4. Deconflicting Rebellion facts.
5. How official is a HIWG Doc?
6. Paperless HIWGing
7. HIWGing in Japan

- - - Ed - - -

BLACK KNIGHTS

by Mike Mikesch

Informal name for the Knightly Order of Vashair, founded in 138 to directly serve the archduke. It was named after an Ilelith hero who, according to legend, died three separate times in the service of the planetary emperor. Martin III dissolved the Vashairians in 435 at the conclusion of the Ilelith Revolt.

Emperor Strephon restored the Order of Vashair in 1107 at the request of Archduke Dulino. Initially, the news media pictured them as special honor guards until 1110 when they captured the naval base at Khirar (Ilelith 2208). Sector Admiral Letna was preparing to defect to the Solomani Confederation with extremely sensitive documents. Operating under a ducal warrant, the knights fought their way into the base, captured Letna, and executed him. Although some still insist the admiral was not a traitor, the Letna Incident clearly demonstrated the Black Knights as an elite fighting arm.

As honor guards, the Knights of Vashair wear special armor with a gleaming black finish. Although designed for ceremony rather than field combat, their armor and weapons are fully functional. They wear stylish black uniforms at other times. Each knight is free to design variations to his own uniform as a mark of distinction.

All black knights are combat experienced. While most are former military, some were law enforcers. Each is given much preparatory training as "squires" before being knighted. Most squires become such without any guarantee of knighthood, and often remain professional squires. It is not uncommon for a knight to lead a squad of squires in small operations. Squires that distinguish themselves are eventually knighted.

The particular value of the Black Knights is as a group whose loyalty is certain. Dulino has no absolute certainty with his naval officers or the Ilelith nobility. So he has come to rely on the knighthood to serve as his representatives. The knighthood has become a symbol of loyalty to the archduke. And as such, Dulino has sent knights to serve particular noblemen as token of his trust.